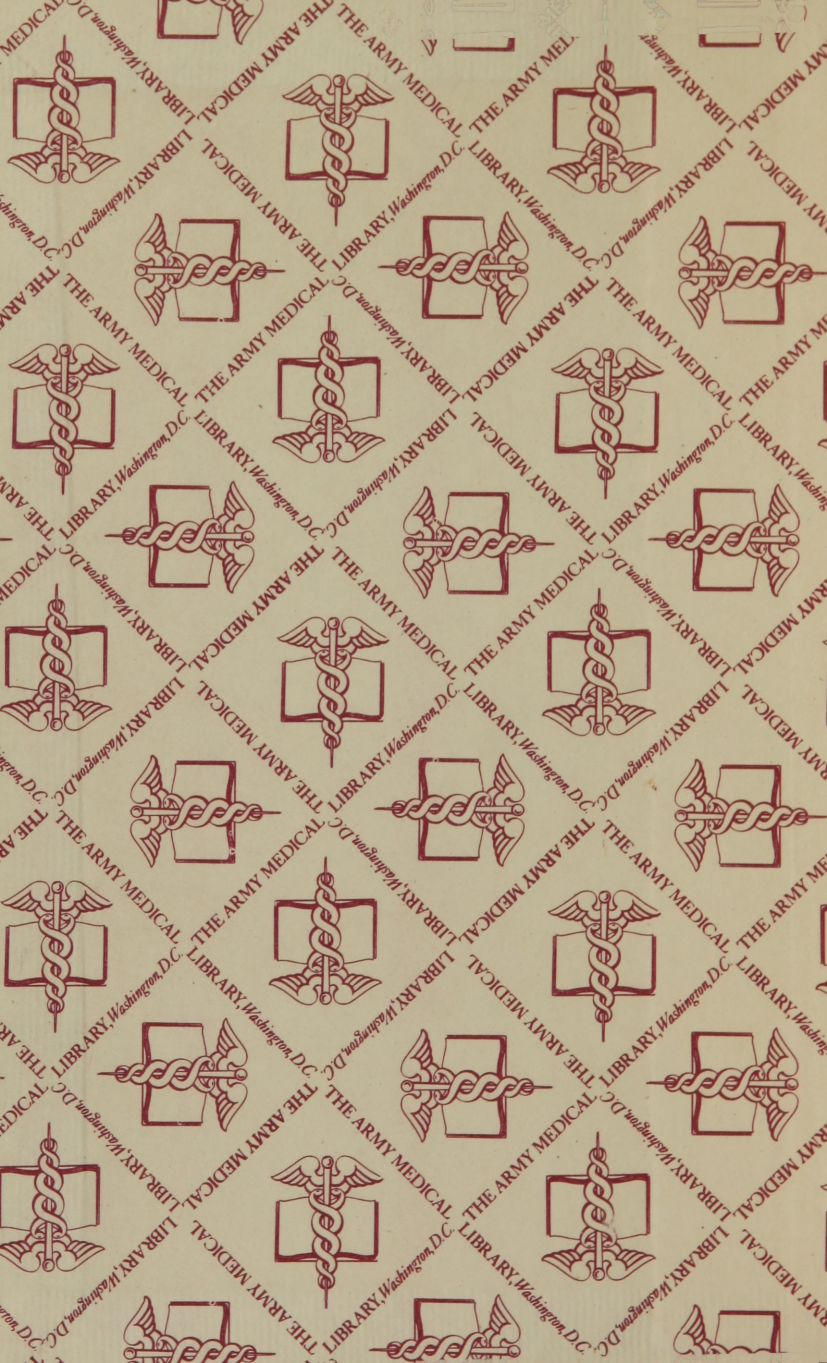
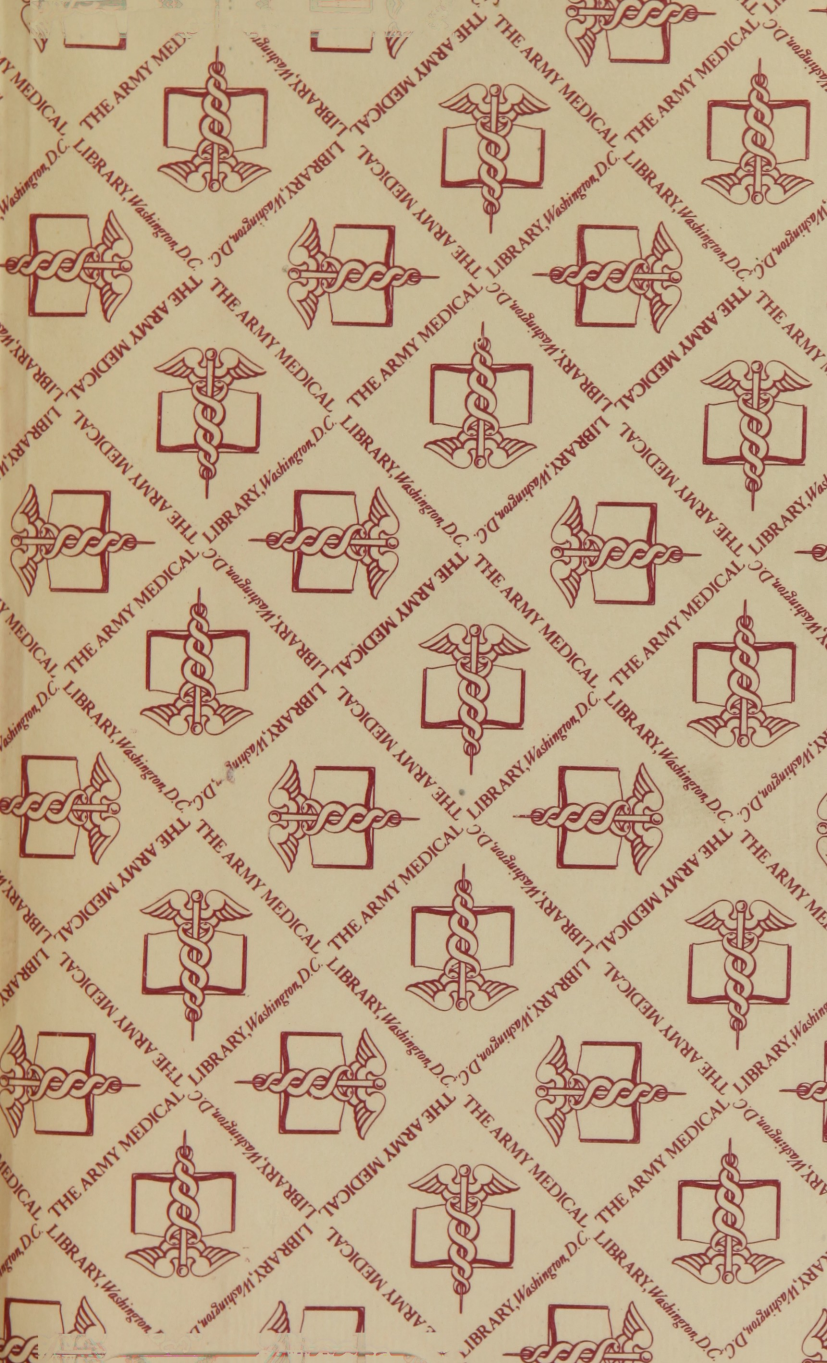


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REMARKS

ON

DISEASES OF THE WOMB.

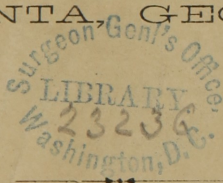
*Don't strip this cover*

BY

H. J. HOLMES, M. D.,

OF

ATLANTA, GEORGIA.



ATLANTA:

CAREFULLY REVISED AND PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.  
1869.

*American Home*





## DISEASES OF THE WOMB.

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THE following practical remarks will not be inappropriate before offering to ladies in feeble health my new and thorough method of curing uterine diseases, and recommending certain specific remedies to those affected with functional derangements of the womb.

If, among civilized nations, woman is less exposed to the numerous maladies and epidemic pestilences which assail, and too often abridge, the allotted lifetime of the sterner sex; if, from the usages of society she is not forced to gain her daily bread by the sweat of her brow, or to toil up the rugged steep of Parnassus at the expense of health and happiness, or to seek "the bubble reputation even at the cannon's mouth;" if, moreover, the fashions of refined life do not suffer "the winds of Heaven to visit her too roughly," she is, nevertheless, charged by the primeval fiat with the most important part of the propagation of the species, imparted and entailed on the great evils of which it is the source. In consequence of this vastly greater share imposed upon her in the reproduction, and her necessary higher organization as delicate as it is mobile, coupled with the superior excitability of her nervous system, it is easy to understand why her sexual organs, embracing, as they do, such extensive sympathetic relations, are not only more liable to disease than those of men, but involving in their derangement the whole physical and moral nature, render woman an easy subject for many maladies unshared by man. Let but her uterine functions be deranged, and she becomes sad, desponding, and susceptible—her digestive organs languish, and with them her whole system. Does this functionary derangement become organic immediately, her beauty and freshness pass, and she fades, and renders her habitually dependent upon our profession for that strength of constitution, and that advice and aid so necessary for the fulfillment of her important destinies. Accordingly, we find that her peculiar sufferings have engaged the attention of Physicians of all times, and their history occupies a conspicuous place in medical writings, from those of Hippocrates, downward. But, notwithstanding the great attention that has for ages past been given to the descriptive anatomy and physiology of the female genitalia; notwithstanding the scientific accuracy with which the manual of all difficult labors has been long ago demonstrated, it is only since pathology, as now studied, has shed its order-giving light upon the general chaos of organic alterations, that we have arrived at correct ideas of the nature, character and difference of those which the uterus and its appendages undergo. Hitherto nearly all diseases of the womb were either confounded under the hopeless denominations of schirrus and of cancer, or were shrouded in such obscurity that their treatment was but little more than empirical. But, under the influence of new discoveries and the improved processes of observation and study now infused into the whole circle of the medical sciences, the peculiar diseases of females are not only

better understood, but their medico-chirurgical therapeuty has reached a degree of perfection as honorable to those who have contributed to these results as it is useful to humanity. By the collateral aid of physics and chemistry, new methods of diagnosis and of treatment have been introduced, and numerous real discoveries have been achieved.

But, as in the progressive conquests of the human mind, these ameliorations lie scattered in the thousands of journals and volumes, it becomes a matter of imperious necessity for practical purposes that they should be collected and compressed into some convenient form, so as to be acceptable to all whose province it is to apply them to the accidents and circumstances to which they are adapted. This I have done, in some degree, in a little work of 460 pages upon the subject of uterine diseases, and which will be presented to the medical profession in a very short time. In this work I have presented also to the reader a new anatomical fact which I am demonstrating daily to the profession—and in its support lengthy and interesting lectures are being delivered, all confirming the principle of this new discovery, and upon which my unparalleled success in the treatment of these diseases is based.

If time and space permitted in this little circular pamphlet, it would be interesting to follow up this subject by remarking upon ulcerative inflammation of the cervix and mucus membrane lining the entire uterine canal during and after abortion and parturition, and to trace its important connection with the rigidity of the os during labor; with laceration and abrasion of the cervix—with flooding, and with morbid symptoms that follow natural and difficult labor. The bare enumeration of these relations, sustained by the elongated inflamed womb and ulcerated cervix, shows the extent and importance of the subject.

That the disease of a part so minute and ordinarily possessed of so little sensibility in itself, for the most part attended with no serious amount of suffering, should develop so long a train of grave symptoms referred to the head, the back, the ovarian region, and appearing in the shape of Leucorrhœa, and disordered menstruation, or of hemorrhage, or sterility, or abortion, is calculated to excite our wonder; and the truth of so wide a range of symptoms with this elongated and lengthened condition of the womb, of the dependence of so many morbid phenomena upon inflammation in it, is one of the most momentous brought to light in the progress of modern practical medicine. These facts are proof of the importance of the study; and when we reflect how little has been known of them hitherto, and how imperfectly they are understood even now, by the mass of practitioners, we can form some conception of the large amount of human suffering, still patiently endured by females, which the judicious application of means at the command of the profession might easily relieve.

I hazard nothing, then, in saying, that I have not consecrated thirty years of studious toil and research to the frailer sex in vain, and although, I regret to say, at the expense of health. Yet, by doing so, I trust I have, in some degree, imposed a debt of gratitude as well upon the profession as upon the mothers and daughters of our fair land, which, if not while living, after death will, perhaps, be properly appreciated.

To attempt to give a full description of each one of the diseases enumerated, and their causes, would require more space than we can give in this pamphlet; we will, therefore, content ourselves by giving the symptoms alone of each, which will suffice, we trust, to give the lady a correct idea of her situation.

Leucorrhœa is defined to be an excessive and altered secretion of mucus, furnished by the membranes lining the vagina and womb. Few married ladies, that are mothers, escape this disease; and it may be said with safety that, of all the diseases that ladies are subject to, none are more common than the Whites, depending in every instance upon an inflammatory, or upon



a congested, engorged, or ulcerated condition of the mucus membrane lining the womb. If evidences were wanting of its universal prevalence, it might be found in the various names by which it is known, and the variety of remedies proposed for it, and the many works that have been written to explain the causes, nature and seat of the disease. The vicissitudes of our climate are said to be the cause of its frequency. It no doubt has its influence, but there are other causes operating upon females to which its origin may be traced more properly than to our climate: such as too early rising from bed after confinement, quickly recurring labors, too long lactation, too much indulgence in sexual intercourse, abortion, profuse menstruation, arresting the periods by getting wet, or taking cold, producing inflammation of the womb itself, of the secretory surfaces and glandular apparatus of the genital organs. Local and long continued inflammation often produces constitutional weakness, with a long train of symptoms, and the pain and irritation, and the increased amount of secretion, point to inflammation as one of its essential primary conditions. The different varieties of Leucorrhœa, from the mild to that which is more aggravated, depends entirely upon the condition of the womb, and to the organic transformation which has taken place. That it is more serious in its nature and effects on the system than is generally supposed, may be very readily ascertained by an examination, and the long train of symptoms which usually accompany it, and the great inconvenience which all must feel from its continued progress, and by its finally ending in dropsy and consumption. This discharge is generally treated without knowing from whence it proceeds, or upon what pathological state of the womb it depends; hence, the frequent failures in treating it by tonics and astringent washes. It is generally conceded by modern writers that it is not a disease of itself, depending upon constitutional debility, but upon acute or chronic inflammation of the womb, and hence the necessity of adopting the plan of Ashwell and others in its treatment. The symptoms are precisely those induced by a drain on the sanguinous system, varying in degree according to the amount, the continuance and more or less frequent recurrence of the discharge. At first there is languor, inactivity; and sensations of weakness, rather than pain, across the loins, are complained of; subsequently, there is severe and almost constant aching of the back and lumbar region. The face is pale, sometimes bleached and cadaverous; nervous headache, quick and feeble pulse, impaired appetite and emaciation, frequent stranguary and itching of the vulva. The discharge varies from a starch-like appearance to a mucopurulent, sometimes yellow, green; or if slightly tinged with blood, the lady may rest assured she has an ulcer upon the womb, which, if not relieved, must inevitably cause a premature death.

Hard engorgements, with ulceration of the womb. This disease, which is extensively prevalent, and the cause of so much suffering, has, until of late years, been overlooked or misunderstood. That it is a chronic affection, which a great number of females in young and middle life suffer under, cannot be questioned. Nothing is more common than to find ladies, who have been a few years married, complaining of pain and weakness in the back, attended with more or less Leucorrhœal discharge, inability to stand for any length of time, or to walk any distance, without suffering sometimes severely, together with general debility and feebleness. From motives of delicacy (a false delicacy it must be considered), many females suffer for years without disclosing their condition to any practitioner; or, if a physician is consulted, the symptoms are treated without a resort to the only means by which their real nature can be ascertained and understood. Remedies are directed to relieve the debility or check the discharge, without an attempt to strike at the root, by a removal of the cause. The symptoms which lead us to suspect the existence of engorgement, with ulceration of the neck of the womb, are pain in the back about the region



of the lumbar vertebræ and sacrum, pain in the hypogastric and pelvic regions. It frequently affects the hips and extends down the thighs in the track of the crural nerves, which are affected both by sympathy and by pressure, produced by the engorged womb. A sense of weight—they describe this as a sense of dragging or bearing down, as if something were about to escape; they are frequently impressed with the belief that they have falling of the womb. Not unfrequently, when a physician is consulted, relying upon the opinion of the lady alone, a pessary is introduced to relieve the supposed prolapsus, which only aggravates the disease. A generally impaired state of the health is a frequent symptom of engorgement of the womb. Strangury, Leucorrhœa, and Tenesmus, are symptoms which accompany this disease. Muscular debility, loss of appetite, paleness, lassitude, sense of fatigue at the most trifling exertion, and all that nameless train of symptoms which usually accompany what is termed feeble health of females, is a common result of this affection. A large class of married females, particularly in cities, suffer under this train of symptoms for years, without being aware of the true cause, or if so, from motives of delicacy, never disclose their sufferings. The causes of engorgement of the womb are various: a sedentary mode of life, neglect of exercise, a plethoric condition of the system, may become causes of engorgement of the womb. The proximate or predisposing causes are the peculiar situation in the body; its dependent condition, the abundant supply of blood sent to it, the shock to which it is exposed in parturition, in coition, etc., sufficiently account for its being the seat of morbid action. The symptoms we have detailed as belonging to this disease are, we think, sufficient to convince any lady that she has a formidable disease, and, if not relieved, must linger out a miserable existence for years, and finally end in cancer of the womb. Our earnest appeal to any lady affected with this disease, would be to compare her feelings and symptoms with those enumerated, and if she is convinced that she has this disease, to make known her situation to the family physician, and urge the necessity of applying the proper means locally, or a well directed plan of treatment, to the womb, where the disease is seated. I do not wish to be considered an alarmist, by any means, nor would I urge unnecessary examinations, but that the lady and physician may be well satisfied as to the condition of the womb, that false delicacy should be dispensed with, and the disease properly investigated.

It has been my misfortune to hear many, very many, ladies regret their not having made known their situation before the disease had become incurable.

Menorrhagia is known to be inordinate menstruation, both as to the frequency of return and the amount of secretion. This disease is not confined to one class of females, nor to one age. The young are less liable than those more advanced in life. The plethoric and robust less frequently than females of susceptible and feeble constitutions. If we reflect upon the large supply of blood constantly furnished to the womb during the greater part of life, and which is every month, for a functional purpose, still further augmented, it is not at all surprising that the limits of secretion are occasionally exceeded, and that instead of a fluid only partially sanguineous, its usual product, pure blood should be discharged from its vessels. Thus, so long as the discharge, if even it be profuse, is not blood, menstruation only exists; but if the secretory function is either altogether or only partially suspended from excessive determination to the uterine vessels, their orifices may give away, and as then they will permit blood to pass unchanged, Menorrhagia is established, a disease we have more to fear from than perhaps any to which the womb is subject. This disease is constantly attended with a discharge from the womb of a bloody fluid, variable as to consistence and color, with more or less aggravations. Perhaps the physician is consulted at this time for the hemorrhage, which may have become

alarming. He recommends a horizontal position, cold cloths, astringents, tampon, etc., which for a time arrests the discharge and affords relief. It is too often the case that he overlooks the fundamental disease, and contents himself with what has been done. Let us examine the result of such superficial views. The discharge is arrested for a time, which quickly returns again more violently and tenaciously, and resists the action of the means which at first had seemed to combat it with advantage. If we then decide on examining the womb, from whence this hemorrhage proceeds, we at once recognize an engorgement with ulceration, which, by its continued progress, has assumed a serious character; the local determination which maintains the disease is still there, and, unless removed, will again show itself by a more aggravated form of the disease. The womb, at this stage of the disease, is always found to be ulcerated. Not a single exception, in some hundreds of cases which have fallen under my care to be treated, where it was not seen varying from the size of a ten cent to a fifty cent piece: the womb is large, soft, spongy and relaxed, and is not in a condition to restrain the hemorrhage when it commences. If this be the condition of the womb (and none will dare question it), we should lose no time in acquainting the lady of the danger to which she is exposed, and insist upon investigating the disease properly, with a view of arresting the discharge, healing the ulcer, and bring the organ to a healthy condition. We will have done what our duty requires of us, and have the pleasure of restoring one to health that otherwise could not have survived the disease very long. Such has been the opposition I have met with, and such the difficulty of arousing the attention of physicians to the necessity of investigating this matter fully, and in a manner that must carry conviction to every unprejudiced member of our profession, who will give it that attention which the patient requires for her safety, that I have resolved not to give any advice, nor to undertake any treatment of the diseases peculiar to females, without my being at the outset assured of the situation of the womb. It is to this firm determination, against which I have rarely found the serious obstacles which practitioners allege as an excuse for not having subjected the patients to a necessary investigation, that I owe the ideas that I have acquired upon the numerous and different kinds of chronic diseases of the womb, and the success which I have often obtained in their treatment. It is by pursuing this course, which alone promises important results to science and humanity, that I have been particularly able to declare that the greatest number of uterine discharges, usually considered as primary and essential, are merely symptomatic of a special engorgement of the whole of the womb.

The symptoms are precisely those we have described in *Leucorrhœa*, viz: languor, inactivity, and sensations of weakness across the loins, the face is pale and cadaverous, nervous headache, the pain being confined to one spot generally; tenderness and soreness of the abdomen, &c. This disease is generally brought on by taking cold, inordinate physical effort and mental excitement; in married ladies, repeated labors and abortions, undue suckling, may lay the foundation for this malady, and it may be brought on by profuse hemorrhage after labor.

*Dysmenorrhœa* is the term applied to those cases in which the act of menstruation is accompanied with pain in the region of the womb. The disease varies in intensity in different individuals, being in some very slight, and occurring only occasionally, in consequence of cold or some temporary derangement of health—whereas, in others, it constitutes one of the greatest sources of distress, to which the female is ever obnoxious—the menstrual office being never performed without agonizing pain. I have seen persons who entertained the greatest dread of the approach of the catamenial period, from the certainty they had of having to pass through an ordeal of extreme anguish. The suffering of the lady, at this period, is sometimes



severe beyond description—it resembles in intensity the pains of labor, or abortion, properly so called, for to either, the case may be said to have a strong analogy. It usually commences with a slight menstuous discharge which is suddenly arrested—pain now instantly ensues, which is described by ladies to be of a forcing, bearing down kind, returning at longer or shorter intervals, until a membranous substance or coagulum is discharged. This has been supposed to be similar to the deciduous coat of the gravid womb; the discharge of this decidua being attended with severe pain, rendered greater probably by excessive irritation of the womb, which causes all its contractile efforts to be more acutely painful. That this state of things is entirely dependent upon a highly congested or irritated condition of all the tissues that compose the womb, no one will doubt. The phenomena of Dysmenorrhœa go to prove this fact by the amount of pain produced, the great change in the menstrual secretion, and the size and appearance of the organ. A small ulcer is generally seen around the mouth of the womb, and in some few instances entire closure of the mouth of the uterus has been discovered in my treating this disease. This disease, so formidable in its character to the lady and physician, and so generally considered incurable by the routine practitioner, is nevertheless entirely manageable—as much so as any disease to which the womb is subject. The numerous cases I have treated at my Infirmary, and the uniform success which has attended my practice, authorizes me to declare emphatically that it can be cured permanently.

Prolapsus uteri, or falling of the womb, is the term generally understood to mean every degree of displacement, from a slight depression to protrusion of the organ through the os externum. So varied are the opinions of medical men in regard to the cause, and the pathological state of the womb at the time this disease is said to exist, that to detail them would occupy more space than this pamphlet will admit. To present my own opinions, and they at variance with the whole profession, with the exception of Lisfranc, would be arrogating to myself more than I am willing to do; I have, therefore, quoted his remarks in regard to it. He says that displacements of the womb are astonishingly frequent, and are believed to be always essential (primary). He is not of that opinion, and says that it has caused grave errors in these parties to be committed. For admitting it, the descent or deviation of the womb is alone treated, and the uterine engorgements are neglected until they become incurable. I have advanced elsewhere, he says, and that I will prove whenever it may be required, that the descent, prolapse, anteversion, retroversion of the womb are excessively rare when the organ is exempt from disease. For more than fifteen years he has especially directed his attention to this important point of pathology, and has examined thousands of women, and to the present time he has found a few cases only in which these morbid affections existed without a sensible increase in the size of the womb. When the womb is engorged in its entire circumference, it descends parallel to the pelvic axis. If its increase in volume prevails in front, there is an anteversion, or the womb is thrown forward, and the contrary when such augmentation occurs at the posterior portion of the organ. Lastly, when the induration exists upon either side, to that side it inclines. If the womb is engorged, and that engorgement is the cause of the falling of the womb, we simply reduce or remove that engorgement, and the organ assumes its natural position in the pelvis. These statements are neither idle or curious; every one reflecting upon the subject must see that it is not a matter of indifference whether we treat exclusively the displacement of the womb, or whether we attack the engorgement of that organ. The engorgement must be removed, and if degeneration of structure has not occurred, we are sure to cure the disease. The weight which the womb acquires from the circumstance of its engorgement, will occasion its precipitation so much more easily, as its ordinary support



shall have been relaxed, the vagina enlarged, &c. The descent only is regarded, a pessary is applied, and surprise is felt that it cannot be supported, or that far from causing the distress and pains, which had been attributed to the falling of the womb, to cease, the presence of the instrument exasperates them, and increases the size of the ulcer already present on the womb, and makes the descent of the womb, with the increased volume of the organ to compress, more or less painfully, the vagina, bladder and rectum, which produces a scalding or retention of the urine, and constipation of the bowels. This disease is known by a sense of weight, and dragging sensation in walking and standing, pain in the back and loins, tenderness and soreness of the abdomen and thighs. The womb sometimes acquires a sensibility so exquisite that the slightest touch of it is insupportable by the acuteness of the pain which it produces. Leucorrhœa invariably accompanies this disease.

We have endeavored, in as succinct a manner as possible, to give to the lady a correct history of the symptoms which accompany the different varieties of disease which the womb is subject to, which we trust will be the means of drawing the attention of ladies to that class of diseases which have been so little understood, and so entirely neglected by our profession, and of which they are the entire victims, that should a single life be saved by a timely application for medical aid, we will have the consolation of knowing that we have been of some service, and our trouble fully compensated in presenting these remarks to the afflicted.

During a long and laborious life devoted especially to the diseases of the womb, I have, by frequent trials in testing the efficiency of certain remedies, succeeded in forming several compounds specially adapted for each one of the diseases which afflict females. The various recipes for preparing them are embraced in my work on diseases of the uterus, which will soon be presented to the medical profession. In advance of its publication, I claim only the privilege of using them for my own benefit to enable me to procure funds to have my work published, and also to raise funds to visit Europe, with a view to presenting this new anatomical fact to the Faculty there. In presenting a pamphlet to the afflicted, embracing some practical remarks upon the diseases of the womb, and testimonials from eminent physicians of my unparalleled success in this particular class of diseases, it may savor of quackery; but, when I state that I am a native Georgian and a graduate of four different medical colleges, and have ever been watchful in guarding the domain of legitimate medicine, and have ever observed a very consistent course in regard to medical ethics, I may in some degree be excused for the course I have taken in endeavoring to raise funds for the purpose stated. If I am condemned and censured in this matter, and the feelings of the profession should become arrayed against me—our pleasant intercourse marred—be it so. I can only say I have a duty to perform, and if I am permitted to live a few years longer, I shall fulfill that duty by establishing this great discovery, this new anatomical fact existing with the living female, and leaving it as a great legacy to the profession. In complaints so prevalent and intractable in their consequences, and so open to diversity of opinion as to their pathology, as diseases of the womb, observations on the beneficial effects of any given remedy are worth all the hypothesis in the world, and by the man engaged in actual practice, dissatisfied as he is but too frequently with the treatment of these affections deduced from theory, will be hailed with the greatest satisfaction. It is only after repeated successes that the greater part of the profession can be induced to place confidence or give trial to a new remedy. Hence the necessity of recording in a work the experience of those more bold, who have been first to test the value of an original proposition.

Dr. H. presents himself before the profession and the public too well en-

dorsed to attempt to practice a deception in offering his services and his remedies to those in feeble health.

That the confidence of the public may not be misplaced, or their expectations not realized, he pledges himself to refund *the amount* to the purchaser, if any one of his preparations fail to afford the desired relief in any one of the diseases for which they are offered.

With this assurance, Dr. Holmes now offers to the ladies some of his infallible remedies which are prepared only by himself, and which have been fully tested in thousands of instances.

1. **THE CELEBRATED MIXTURE FOR DYSMENORRHEA OR PAINFUL MENSTRUATION.**—It requires but two or three doses to give immediate relief—those who dread the ordeal of a painful period, after a single trial, cannot be induced to be without it. I care not whether the case be of long standing, for one or twenty years, and of the most aggravated character—with cramps, spasms, convulsions, or of the most intense pain—I guarantee immediate relief from this medicine. I ask those suffering with this terrible disease to try one bottle, and if they are not relieved by it, write for their money: it will be returned by letter.

2. **HIS MIXTURE FOR SUPPRESSED OR IRREGULAR MENSTRUATION.**—I guarantee this medicine to restore the period of any lady, even though it may have been stopped for one or more years, or should it amount to a show only, or become irregular with long or short intervals, to establish them fully and make her regular and healthy. One-fourth, or less than a bottle, will accomplish all that is desired in a few days or weeks.

3. **HIS MIXTURE FOR MENORRHAGIA.**—Too free menstruation or hemorrhage of any kind from the womb: never fails to arrest the flow by a few doses—those who are prostrated by these exhausting discharges would not be deprived of it for any consideration—one bottle will relieve any case.

4. **HIS MIXTURE FOR LEUCORRHEA OR WHITES.**—This preparation will cure any case of Leucorrhœa in a few days. No internal medicine is necessary when this remedy is used; and those who for months and years have suffered with this disease, and have tried all other remedies in vain, can calculate upon a speedy cure by the proper use of this never-failing remedy. There is no mistake in this: try it, and you will say more for it than I have done.

5. **HIS MIXTURE FOR DYSPEPSIA.**—This mixture relieves all acid, indigestion and oppression of the stomach, spitting up food, heartburn and eructations, and enables the lady to indulge in any article of diet, and when taken with the liquid condiment, is certain to relieve any case. I ask those afflicted with Dyspepsia to try it. They will not be disappointed. One bottle of this mixture and the receipt for preparing them will be furnished for ten dollars.

6. **HIS MIXTURE FOR NERVOUS HEADACHE, or Headache of any kind,** will afford immediate relief, for the time, in five minutes. Try it, and see what a blessing to mankind. One bottle will last for months or a year.

7. **THE MOTHER'S RELIEF.**—This liniment, when used for two or three weeks before confinement, produces a wonderful effect, causing a very easy and quick labor, with comparatively little pain, and leaves the mother in a condition to recover quickly, or, in other words, to have a good getting-up—under its use labor will not ordinarily occupy one-fourth of the usual time, and the lady will not suffer one-tenth part of the pain usually felt. I can attribute, in a great degree, my wonderful success in obstetrical cases to the use of this liniment, and allow me to add that the man who believes not in remedial agencies expediting labor, and converting this phisiological effort of the womb to one of contraction and delivery with comparatively little pain, is far behind the present age. This medicine is capable of doing



this, and I therefore do not hesitate to pronounce it one of the most valuable discoveries of the age, and when tried will be hailed as a great blessing to suffering females. If it does not afford the relief I have promised, please write for your money.

Any one of these preparations, with full printed directions, will be sent by Express on receipt of five dollars.

From thirty years' experience specially devoted to the study and treatment of uterine diseases in all their various forms, and complaints peculiar to females, the undersigned has been induced to locate permanently in the city of Atlanta, for the purpose of offering his services to those afflicted with Engorgement, Prolapsus Uteri, Ulceration, Leucorrhœa, &c. His unparalleled success in the treatment of fifteen hundred cases of uterine diseases prompts him to say that these complaints can be permanently cured. This assertion is based upon his long experience and his thorough method of treating uterine diseases, embracing as it does the topical application of his remedies to the affected part by a most ingenious-made instrument, which, when applied, is in a degree attended with but little pain. By his treatment he is enabled to bring the remedies directly in contact with the seat of the disease sufficiently long to have its full curative effect. The advantages resulting from the practice exhibit themselves in the prompt and immediate cure of the lady. After two or three treatments have been made, the dragging sensations begin to subside; the irritable condition of the womb ceases, Leucorrhœa is checked, period fully established, and sensible relief from other unpleasant symptoms is experienced; and by a continuation of the remedy, the womb is finally made healthy and the lady restored to health.

H. J. HOLMES, M. D.,  
*Atlanta, Georgia.*





# TESTIMONIALS.

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THE public are respectfully invited to examine the following testimonials, voluntarily tendered to me from medical gentlemen of the first standing:

We, physicians of Hinds county, Mississippi, have known Dr. Henry J. Holmes for thirty years, and with pleasure bear testimony to his character as a gentleman and physician, enthusiastic and laborious in his profession, and in the treatment of uterine diseases, to which he has principally devoted his life. Strange as it may appear, truth compels us to declare, he has been remarkably successful. The Doctor's lectures will be found lengthy and interesting, and his experiments astounding. We therefore respectfully ask for him from the profession that degree of courtesy which is certainly due a professional brother who is laboring for the good of suffering humanity in the exercise of his peculiar talent, and is endeavoring to promote the science of medicine.

W. E. Herring, M. D.	J. Edgar Goodlett, M. D.	T. C. Austin, M. D.
Robert White, M. D.	T. A. Catchings, M. D.	J. W. Crisler, M. D.
L. White, M. D.	B. Fullerton, M. D.	J. W. Bogle, M. D.
H. T. T. Dupree, M. D.	Robert Brown, M. D.	R. L. Bogle, M. D.
S. W. Hamilton, M. D.	H. T. McCoy, M. D.	George Latimer, M. D.
T. H. Jones, M. D.	George Stokes, M. D.	Benj. G. Harris, M. D.
Jesse R. Jones, M. D.	J. R. Horn, M. D.	Robert Kells, M. D.
S. C. Caston, M. D.	L. B. Hemphill, M. D.	J. L. Carter, M. D.
Jesse A. Cotton, M. D.	W. W. Divine, M. D.	P. T. Bailey, M. D.
W. B. Williamson, M. D.	J. S. Beazley, M. D.	Wirt Johnston, M. D.

BEAUREGARD, MISS., March 24, 1868.

DRS. MCGHEHE & MOORE—*Gents*: Permit me to introduce to your acquaintance my time-honored friend, Dr. H. J. Holmes, who has, by hundreds of intelligent and highly respected citizens of this and adjoining States, been considered, for the last thirty years, as the great pioneer in uterine surgery of our State. Though you may not concur altogether with him in some of his theory, he is a gentleman from whom much is to be learned, and who delights to impart the results of a long, rich and varied experience to those who take an interest in this branch of Medical Science. He visits your city for the purpose of delivering a few lectures, gratis, to the profession. I bespeak for him a full attendance on his lectures, as you will have afforded you ample and new fields of reflection.

Very respectfully,

C. L. EVANS, M. D.

JACKSON, MISS., January 6, 1869.

Having learned that Dr. H. J. Holmes, of this county, is about to commence a series of lectures on special diseases of females, I take pleasure in



adding my testimony to his worth and merits as a physician of long practice in this State. Dr. Holmes has attained great distinction as an operator in his special treatment of diseases so common to females, and commands the confidence of this community in his skill and scientific attainments. I commend him to the confidence and courtesy of the communities in which he may labor, as a gentleman of high social position in Mississippi, and strict integrity and honor.

Very respectfully,

BENJ. G. HUMPHREYS.

VICKSBURG, MISS., January 15, 1869.

I fully agree with the statement of Governor Humphreys, and cheerfully commend Dr. Holmes.

C. K. MARSHALL.

JACKSON, MISS., October 16, 1868.

I have known the bearer of this letter, Dr. H. J. Holmes, for many years, intimately, and it affords me great pleasure to be able to say that he is a gentleman of deservedly high character and great merit. As a practitioner of medicine, he has always stood high, particularly in the treatment of diseases of females, in which line he has attained great and merited celebrity. His success in that line is well known and appreciated in the large circle of ladies who have been under his treatment. I most cheerfully recommend him to the public, and especially to those who are afflicted.

WM. L. SHARKEY.

JACKSON, MISS., October 20, 1868.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: I learn that you contemplate making a tour, and delivering a course of lectures upon certain branches of your profession which you have for many years made a speciality, and in which you have deservedly acquired a high reputation. I mean the diseases peculiar to females. Having known you for twenty-five years, it gives me pleasure to bear my testimony to your high character as a gentleman and physician, and to commend you to the confidence and courtesy of all among whom your lot may be cast.

Very truly,

T. J. WHARTON.

JACKSON, MISS., October 23, 1868.

I take great pleasure in presenting my friend, Dr. H. J. Holmes, of Hinds county, Mississippi, to my friends and fellow-citizens of the South. Dr. Holmes, in the special diseases to which he has directed his attention, has acquired great distinction among his brethren of the profession, and the community in which he has resided. As a gentleman of high character and integrity, he has always commanded the regards and esteem of the community in which he resides.

Very truly,

C. E. HOOKER,  
Attorney General Mississippi.

JACKSON, MISS., January 12, 1869.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: Having just learned that it is your intention to travel through the States of Alabama and Georgia for the purpose of lecturing upon female diseases, and having known you so long and witnessed many instances of your skillful treatment of females under peculiar sufferings, it gives me more than ordinary pleasure to add my testimony to your kindness and Christian deportment, and to your merits as a physician in the treatment of diseases peculiar to females. I trust you will meet with that good success which you so much deserve for your noble efforts to relieve suffering humanity.

I am truly your friend and servant,

D. N. BARROWS,  
formerly Mayor of Jackson.



McMACKIN HOUSE, }  
VICKSBURG, MISS., January 17, 1869. }

TO THE PUBLIC.—Having known Dr. H. J. Holmes for a number of years, I take great pleasure in recommending him to the public as being a gentleman of high character in our community, and an experienced physician whose reputation is not excelled by any one, especially in the treatment of female diseases, in which he has had great experience and has been very successful.

Very respectfully,

T. C. McMACKIN.

Dr. Holmes' Medical and Surgical Institute is becoming a *sine qua non* to the welfare of our State and health of our citizens, and his rapidly spreading reputation, although it might excite surprise, is but the signal of skill, and follows as the natural effect of such a cause. Ladies who had suffered for years under chronic uterine disease, who had taken advantage of every available means that promised relief, but without success, until they called upon Dr. H., who, in an incredible short space of time, has given them entire relief. It is gratifying to announce this fact, because the Doctor is a gentleman who seeks not by defamation of others to establish his reputation, or to rear the superstructure of his own upon the ruin of another's fame. The Doctor conducts his Infirmary in such a manner that must be gratifying to all his patients. He examines, advises and recommends without charge, and the patient, after hearing his terms for treatment, can accept or reject at pleasure. Ladies affected with chronic disease would do well to consult the Doctor; at all events, it can do no harm.—*Daily Mississippian*, Oct. 12, 1860.

JACKSON, March 24, 1869.

I have had a personal acquaintance with Dr. Holmes for some time, though intercourse with him has been limited. His reputation, character and standing as a practicing physician has been, however, well known to me for a number of years, and from my knowledge of the same, I take pleasure in stating it as my opinion that he is entitled to the confidence and respect of the public.

FULTON ANDERSON.

JACKSON, MISS., March 24, 1869.

I take pleasure in introducing Dr. H. J. Holmes, of this county, who is about to commence, as I learn, a series of lectures on special diseases of females. I have known the Doctor for twenty years as a successful practitioner in this State, and as a gentleman of deservedly high character and great merit.

I cheerfully recommend him to the communities in which he may labor.

Respectfully,

E. RICHARDSON,

of the firm of Richardson & May, New Orleans.

JACKSON, MISS., March 24, 1869.

I take pleasure in recommending Dr. H. J. Holmes as a gentleman of the strictest integrity and honor, a man of high social attainments, and eminently skilled in his profession, and especially in the treatment of those diseases peculiar to females. He has had the largest practice in those diseases of any physician in Central Mississippi for the past thirty years.

R. H. WINTER,

United States Marshal Southern District of Mississippi.

DR. H. J. HOLMES.—This well-known physician has commenced a tour for the delivery of lectures on special diseases. He is an old citizen of this county, of established eminence and learning in his profession, and we

commend him to the consideration of the press and the public generally.—  
*Jackson Clarion*, March 23, 1869.

GEN. N. B. FORREST, President of the Selma and Memphis Railroad, in his letter, dated Selma, April 15, 1869, says: \* \* \* \* \* You cured my wife, even after the case had been pronounced incurable by others. Her health remains good to this day, all of which I attribute to your superior skill in the management of female diseases.

JACKSON, MISS., October 27, 1852.

DR. A. H. CENAS—*Dear Sir*: Your position and standing in the profession in New Orleans have induced the desire on our part to make known to you our friend Dr. Holmes, who goes to your city with a view to engage in the treatment of the diseases of females. Dr. H. has given almost his entire attention to this branch of the profession for many years, and with much success. After a careful examination of his mode of practice, we have no hesitation in saying that he is fully entitled to the entire confidence of his professional brethren. Should you have the desire to examine his mode of treatment, which is new and original with himself, he will take pleasure in giving any explanation of principles or details. Dr. Holmes is withal a gentleman, and any attention which you may find it convenient to extend to him will be duly appreciated. Respectfully,

E. PICKETT, M. D.

W. S. LANGLEY, M. D.

THOS. J. HARPER, M. D.

*To the Editor of the Vicksburg Whig:*

DEAR SIR: Being engaged here this week in promoting the interest of our much esteemed friend, R. Griffith, and being at leisure to-night, I will hurriedly endeavor to supply the loss of a former article to you on the subject of diseases of females.

I have no wish to write an essay on the diseases incident to the brightest and fairest portion of our Maker's handiwork; but I do desire greatly to call the attention of those who are interested, whether it be physicians, husbands, or wives, to a few facts. I do this with one desire only—to benefit the sufferers—and I sincerely believe I will succeed in some measure, because I have much experience from not only being a few years since one of the calling, but from having a wife who has been an invalid for more than fourteen years, and because I have not even a remote interest in deceiving. The treatment pursued when I graduated did, of necessity, involve much uncertainty, and I hesitate not to affirm that the course of treatment too often led to a permanent injury, and very seldom effected more than a mitigation of the symptoms. Fortunately for the sex and for our happiness too, a Lesfranc and Ashwell, and others, have thrown the weight of their minds and experience on this delicate subject, and have entirely revolutionized the mode of practice. I mean that the modern physician can prescribe from known facts, and with much, very much, hope of success. There are many physicians who know what the practice is, and I could refer to several in your own city with whom I have conversed, who know more of it than I do, for I confess it is entirely new to me. Having seen an article in the *New Orleans Medical Journal*, written by Dr. H. J. Holmes, of Spring Ridge, Miss., on the diseases of females, furnished me by the kind attention of Dr. Morrison, my neighbor, I became convinced that I never did know anything on this subject, and had been guessing. I immediately, though a stranger, entered into a correspondence with Dr. Homes, then in New Orleans, in consequence of which I became satisfied that my wife could be relieved, if



not finally cured. I placed her under his charge. She remained with him about four months. Two months and more have now passed since her return; and that there has been very great improvement, all of her friends readily grant. Upon testing the balances, she has gained over ten pounds, a vast gain in two months, and in the condition she has been in for fourteen years. I could refer to many ladies, older and younger, that have shown a vast deal greater improvement, but it is a delicate matter that I dare not encroach on. Indeed, I should not have gone so far as I now have, but that I could never feel satisfied in knowing that I might possibly benefit my race and not attempt it. This is my excuse, and I rely on the feelings of the good and pure to pardon me for thus violating a seeming rule of delicacy. I was witness to Dr. Holmes' practice, and I would not hesitate an instant in beseeching the nearest relative I have to seek his advice if they required it. Dr. Holmes is prepared to attend to all cases of this character. He has devoted years to the study and to the practice, and I ask my brethren of the M. D.'s to attribute my recommendation of Dr. H. to this fact, and not to any desire to bolster up quackery or humbuggery, even in my own brother, much less in an only brother M. D. and M. M. Dr. Holmes is a regular graduate, and I heartily believe eminently entitled to the confidence of any lady in the land. With the hope that this may elicit the attention and inquiry of those interested, I beg to remain their and your friend.

M. W. PHILLIPS, M. D.

*Hatch Nursery, December 12, 1846.*

This lady was cured twelve years ago, and remains in fine health to this day. For the truth of which, address Dr. Phillips, Edwards' Depot, Miss.  
H. J. H.

SPRING RIDGE, MISS., April 6, 1858.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* Having been engaged in the practice of medicine in the immediate vicinity of your Infirmary since its first establishment, frequent opportunities have been afforded me, by occasional visits to it, of witnessing your manipulations, and by frequent conversations with yourself in relation to your treatment of uterine diseases, and information from other reliable sources, of learning the principles upon which your treatment of those diseases is founded, the skill with which you apply your remedies, and the success which has resulted—I take great pleasure in tendering to you the expression of my most favorable opinion. The remedial measures which you have adopted in the cure of female diseases were lately introduced to the profession by the ablest physicians of Paris, and have been tested and approved by some of the most eminent members of the profession, not only in Europe, but in our own country, and are no doubt the legitimate offspring of scientific principles. To you I think it justly due the credit of having first employed this method of treatment in the South. You have not only been prompt to embrace the latest improvement in this branch of the profession, but you have made some valuable contributions to it, particularly in your modifications of the *Perte Caustique*, and the manner of using it. In fine, I may add, that by constant attention to those cases for a number of years, you have acquired a tact and a success in their management rarely equalled.

WM. H. THOMPSON, M. D.

BOLIVAR COUNTY, MISS., March 12.

H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* During my stay at your Infirmary, I have had frequent opportunities of observing your practice in chronic diseases of females. It is due to you to say, that your treatment is founded upon sound pathological views, and is in accordance with the directions of the



best modern authors. The old method of treating this class of diseases was mainly palliative—your method aims at nothing less than a radical cure, which, with a proper perseverance, will generally be the result. Your long experience in treating these maladies should entitle you to the confidence of the public.

Very respectfully, your friend,

A. B. DODD, M. D.

BRAZORIA, TEXAS, October 27, 1853.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* It gives me much pleasure to inform you of the restored health of my lady. As I wrote you before, for many weeks after her return from Spring Ridge, she was reduced to a skeleton by a severe attack of obstinate diarrhoea, contracted on the journey home, and which prevented me from appreciating the decided change which has taken place in her general health, and particularly in those uterine affections which have embittered the longest part of her life. She comes home from your care, after trying an hundred physicians, and resorting to watering places and every variety of remedy within my reach and information for more than twenty years past, restored in health, renovated in constitution, and bidding fair to realize a healthful old age. It is useless for me to attempt any description of her maladies and sufferings previous to her being placed under your care. They assumed the Protean shape, and were as many and as changeful as the days in the year. Direct local applications, under your novel and successful treatment, to the uterus, the main seat of her disease, could alone have saved her life. It saved her from paralysis and cancer. She now walks with ease, attends her domestic avocations with less fatigue than she has experienced for twenty years, and is entirely free from any uterine derangement. This state of things I never supposed possible, and am gratefully obliged to you for the priceless service you have rendered me. Medical men are becoming more and more convinced of the great preponderance of the uterine over all other female diseases, and your mode of treatment, and the success which has hitherto attended it opens to you a vast field for the amelioration of human sufferings. I hope your practice may be as lucrative as it is honorable to you. My advice to females with diseased womb is to go to you at once. They will never regret it.

Your friend,

PETER W. GAUTIER, M. D.

CLINTON, MISS., November 2, 1848.

DR. H. J. HOLMES: I am satisfied, from conversations with yourself and examination of the evidences of your success, that your treatment of the uterine diseases generally, is scientific and founded upon the best authorities, assisted by your own extensive experience.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE G. BANKS, M. D.

WINCHESTER, Wayne County, Miss., March 22, 1854.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* Having from time to time heard of your professional character, your growing celebrity abroad, and the very many apparently hopeless cases which had been professionally treated by you, and radically cured; all this, I say, added to the ardent wish I entertained of being competently advised of the precise character of a certain disease under which Mrs. H. had labored for five years, and still continued to suffer, first induced me to ask your opinion in regard to the possibility of her being cured. Your prompt reply and the inducements given for her becoming a patient of yours, was attended with the happiest results. Her stay at your Infirmary was pleasant and agreeable, and since her return home, has continued to improve, and is at this time as free from uterine disease as she ever was.

Very respectfully your friend,

W. L. HORN, M. D.

YAZOO CITY, MISS., January 1, 1853.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: I read sometime last spring an essay of yours, on the diseases of females, in the *N. O. Medical Journal*, and at the time thought of communicating with you in regard to my wife, whose health for some four or five months previous had been very bad. I determined, however, to try the effects of traveling and the waters of the Virginia Springs during the summer, and if her health was not improved to visit you this winter. If, from a brief statement of her case, you believe you could be of any service to her. \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \* It is in the hope that your reputation and experience may have furnished you with some cases, apparently far gone with consumption, that had their origin in uterine irritation, which, if removed, would greatly relieve the diseased state of the lungs, that induced me to address you upon the subject of my wife's health.

W. S. READ, M. D.

76 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, }  
September 1, 1858. }

DR. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: I have examined the case of Mrs. —, and have recommended her to place herself under your care. I find considerable enlargement and great tenderness of the left ovary. I suppose the pressure of the enlarged ovary produces the anteversion. But having her under your immediate observation for a length of time, you will be able to settle all doubtful points. \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \* But the case is turned over entirely to your management, hoping sincerely that you may be able to afford her the relief you have given to so many of her suffering sisters.

With great regard, believe me, my dear Doctor, ever truly, yours, etc.,  
J. MARION SIMS, M. D.

BRANDON, MISS., December 21, 1858.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: Yours reached me sometime since, and it gave me much pleasure to learn that you were succeeding pretty well, notwithstanding some of the faculty were arrayed against you. This is what you must expect—in fact, what you know, for there is no spot on earth free from envy, especially where the medical profession is represented—and what place in not infected by it? The energy and ability which you bring to bear, Sir, will carry you through all opposition, and the field in which you are now thrown is one ample, not only to afford you wealth, but honor, for which you have devoted so many years of labor. In future, it may be in my power to give testimony in your behalf, as I am making investigations in your way; if so, you shall hear from me.

Respectfully, your friend, J. J. THORNTON, M. D.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., November 27, 1848.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: I have received your communication of the 21st instant, and am happy to give you whatever information I may possess in regard to Mrs. G.'s case. I had moved to Florida before her marriage took place, and did not see her until nearly two years after her confinement. During that time I must infer, from Dr. G.'s letters, that she was in a most critical situation, and from the despair expressed in some of his letters, it is evident that her life was more than once despaired of. This long-continued derangement of health was attributed by the Doctor to mismanagement in her confinement; in short, injury done to the uterus. I have no doubt but that this was the case, and that it was the commencement of the disease which would probably have ended her life in a year or two, if you had not fortunately succeeded in making a complete cure of the



case. Before I saw her in Florida, the origin of the case must, I presume, have been forgotten, for she told me, in her first interview, that all the physicians who had visited her had endeavored to salivate her, but without success. The change of climate, of scene, diet and regimen, soon restored her to health, at least in appearance. \* \* \* \* \*

From that time until I removed from Florida, in December 1828, I was induced to believe that time and the recuperative powers of nature had repaired the injury which the uterus had sustained on the occasion of the first delivery. After a year or so, I saw clearly from Dr. G.'s letters that her health had again become impaired. He was disposed to refer everything to a torpid state of the liver, but from the description of symptoms, such as lassitude, depression of spirits, dull pains in the loins and lower part of the abdomen, I apprehended a return of the diseased condition of the uterus. I saw her again in 1837, at St. Joseph, when this opinion was confirmed. After their removal to Texas, it seems that the disease slowly but gradually gained ground, until she became almost as helpless as she ever was. During two years previous to her visit to you, I expressed my opinion of her case over and over again, and urged Dr. G. to send her to you. I saw her in this city on her arrival from Texas, and again on her return from your Infirmary, and felt satisfied that you had effected a complete cure. Now that she is relieved from her uterine disease, I see no reason to doubt the anticipation of her husband, and sincerely hope she will enjoy twenty years of uninterrupted health, to compensate for previous protracted suffering and disease. You would do well to publish the cases you speak of; they cannot fail to interest the readers of the *Medical Journal*, and facts of such importance to the suffering female should be promulgated in every possible way.

WM. P. HORT, M. D.

—  
AUTAUGA COUNTY, ALA., 20th December, 1855.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: The great celebrity you have acquired by your numerous cures in this part of the country, has induced me to open a correspondence with you, for the purpose of learning your practice, at any cost. If your treatment is anything of an improvement on our latest and best modes, *I am in*, especially when I inform you that I have practiced twenty-seven years, and have a diploma with Mott, Post, Hossack, Mitchell, McNeiven and Francis' names attached to it. I have declined general practice, and am now devoting my whole attention to diseases of females—hence my great anxiety to know more of your new method of treating uterine diseases.

Very respectfully,

JOHN A. WHITSTONE, M. D.

—  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, JACKSON, MISS., {  
28th October, 1847. }

DEAR SIR: Dr. Holmes, the bearer of this note, visits New Orleans with a view to practice his profession. He is a gentleman of acknowledged professional skill. For several years past he has confined his practice chiefly to diseases peculiar to women, and in that branch of the profession he has acquired a very high character, which is admitted by all who have been treated by him to be well deserved. Many of his patients in this city and surrounding country speak of him in the most exalted terms, as a skillful, persevering and uniformly kind and courteous physician. I take great pleasure in saying his reputation, professionally and as a gentleman, is all that any community could ask. Allow me, therefore, to commend him to your kind attention.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
PASMORE HOOPES, New Orleans.

A. G. BROWN.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., June 11, 1857.

DR. J. H. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* Since I have been in this city, a convenient opportunity was afforded me of making the acquaintance of Dr. Gross, Professor of Surgery in the Louisville Institute. I had often heard you speak highly of him as a scientific man, and perhaps surpassed by few in the Union. They say here that his skill and character is growing rapidly, and they boldly contend that as a Surgeon he has no superior in the Union. Standing thus high in my estimation, and conversation taking a turn on the South and Southern physicians, I spoke of you, and asked him if he thought your brethren of the scalpel in the South spoke and thought of you according to your claims and merits. He promptly replied that whatever they might have said to your prejudice, must have arisen from a mere spirit of opposition, and probably that opposition was superinduced alone from your making newspaper publications; but that his knowledge and opinion was obtained from a better and more reliable source. That he witnessed a rigid examination through which you went and sustained yourself with very high credit. That from the various means he had of knowing you professionally, he was confident your qualifications were ample and thoroughly scientific; and adding to this your safe judgment and experience, you must necessarily be successful where the case admitted success. This was the substance of Dr. Gross' conversation, and I should not have repeated it to you, had I not known of the narrow-minded and illiberal course of some of the members of your profession several years since. I thought if this pack was still yelping at your heels, a generous encomium like this, coming from a noble heart and wise head, would be quite refreshing.

Truly, your friend,

T. P. WARE.

JACKSON, MISS., October 16, 1846.

H. J. HOLMES, M. D.—*Dear Sir:* Understanding it to be your intention to go to New Orleans, for the purpose of practicing your profession in that class of cases to which you have devoted so much attention—I mean chronic diseases of females—I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the very uncommon efficacy which has attended your mode of treatment in some cases which have fallen under my observation; not doubting but that the friends of other parties who have received relief in such numerous instances will be equally prompt to testify as to the facts in their respective cases, which are known to me only by rumor, and that thus you will embody a mass of testimony which will put incredulity to flight, and open your way to a more enlarged field of usefulness among that interesting class of patients.

I state, then, that a member of my family, after the birth of her first child, in June, 1836, had some uterine disease—the precise character of which I am unable to explain—which alike resisted the ordinary medical treatment and the effect of a season in Havana, and I had serious apprehension of her recovery, and little or none that she would again become a mother. In the spring of 1842 I placed her under your care, and in July of that year you pronounced her well. Since that time she has enjoyed good health, and has given birth to two children. I know of one other case of similar character, and have heard of others. Indeed, I consider your mode of treatment of all such diseases vastly superior to any hitherto employed within my knowledge, and that it entitles you to be regarded as a public benefactor.

Your character as a man of honor, and your high sense of professional propriety and delicacy, need no testimonials from any quarter, and in referring to particular cases I wish to be understood that I do so in order that you may secure the confidence of those to whom, in your discretion, you may show this letter, and thereby be enabled to be more useful, as before



stated, to the interesting class of patients to whom your mode of practice offers a well-grounded hope of restoration to health.

With sincere wishes for your prosperity and success, I remain your obliged friend and obedient servant,  
C. R. CLIFTON.

JACKSON, MISS., October 10, 1845.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir:* On the 30th day of last month, my lady was delivered of a fine son, weighing eight pounds and a half. This is more than I could ever have expected, as she has not had a child for eight years before, owing to her general bad health, and more particularly a disease of the womb, under which she suffered very much for six years previous to her calling on you for medical assistance. Her general health is still rather bad, but very much improved, owing, I have no doubt, to the valuable and effectual cure which you made of the disease of the womb.

I take great pleasure in saying that this is one of the many instances of your cures of this kind which have come under my knowledge; and although it is rather a delicate matter, I deem it my duty to authorize you to use this letter if you think it will serve you to do so.

Respectfully, your friend,

J. S. GOOCH.

JACKSON, MISS., March 22, 1848.

DR. HENRY J. HOLMES: Allow me to express, if I can in suitable terms, my appreciation of the kind attentions of yourself and lady to Mrs. H. during the last six months, whilst she was under your professional care, and for the fortunate and very signal success of your treatment in restoring her to health. During more than ten years she has suffered from a chronic disease affecting the nervous system—rendering life a torture—and which until lately has been, and still is, generally inscrutable to the medical corps. She had been incredibly afflicted. In its first progress it ran into phrenetis, which, on closing, left her, as it seemed, an invalid for life. A resort to the bland climate of Austria and San Antonio promised alleviation, but the disease remained, and gradually increased in malignity, and in a year or two inevitably she must have yielded to its resistless course. You have subdued the disease, and given health. There could not be found such an instance of cure, except among the many, very many of the sex who have come to your establishment from all quarters and great distances, and who have been restored to family and friends, invoking blessings upon you.

With great esteem, and unfeigned friendship,

A. HUTCHISON.

DR. HENRY J. HOLMES.—This amiable and excellent gentleman, and skillful and accomplished physician, who has acquired just distinction by occasional essays in the Southern medical journals, is gaining a well merited celebrity for the uniform and remarkable success in the effectual cure of a class of chronic diseases to which females of Southern regions are in a great degree subjected—diseases that, until very lately, were inscrutable to the medical profession, and attended with prolonged and indescribable sufferings and ultimate death. Dr. Holmes, availing himself of the late discoveries and new systems of treatment in Paris, established an Infirmary on Spring Ridge, some four miles south of the Mississippi Springs, in Hinds county, to which, for some years, he has been devoting unremitting and almost undivided attention. We have not information that would enable us to state certainly the number of the long afflicted who have placed themselves under his care, and have been restored to their families and friends, relieved, rejoicing and grateful—but they have been many. In but few instances have patients been refused or dismissed as beyond the reach of the curative art—all others have found the long-lost boon of health.

This is not an empiracal establishment; no, indeed, for here are rendered available, and skillfully administered, all the lights and appliances that science and experience have indicated, and the results have triumphantly illustrated the efficacy and influence of the establishment. Fortunate is the county to have for the afflicted of the sex such a refuge, and thrice fortunate in having such a physician.—*Mississippian*.

MEMPHIS, April 8, 1859.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: It is with no small degree of pleasure that I bear testimony to your unrivalled skill in the treatment of uterine diseases. Five months ago I placed my wife under your care (in this city), for a disease under which she had labored for the last ten years—viz: Dysmenorrhœa. During this time, she had suffered immensely at her periodical turns, and with a hope that she might be relieved, I carried her to Dr. Henry Miller, of Louisville, Ky., who treated her for two months or more for the disease without relief. I returned home in the utmost despair, and finally, at the suggestion of Mrs. M., concluded to bring her to Memphis and place her under your care. On my return, to-day, I find her relieved and restored to health, looking better and more fleshy than I have seen her for many years—in a word, well. From what I know and have seen of this case, I do not hesitate to recommend any lady afflicted with the uterine disease to apply to you. They will not be disappointed.

If this letter will serve you in any way, you are at liberty to publish it.

Very respectfully, your friend,

W. E. McCARLY, M. D.,  
of Noxubee county, Miss.

MEMPHIS, May 3, 1859.

DR. HOLMES: Having read Dr. McCarly's letter addressed to you, I take great pleasure in corroborating the statement of the great benefit experienced by his wife.

Mrs. McCarly, the lady to whom it refers, boarded at my house for two and a-half months, during which time she was visited and treated by you.

Before leaving my house, to board at your Infirmary, I could discover a very great improvement in her appearance, &c. Before leaving Memphis, to return home, she spent a day with my family. All could see a still more decided improvement, and from my wife I have since learned that she did not hesitate to declare that her expectations in visiting you had been more than realized, and that she was cured in every respect of her former disease.

Very respectfully,

J. C. McALLISTER, Shelby St.

MEMPHIS, TENN., April 29, 1859.

DR. HOLMES—*Esteemed Friend*: Several months have elapsed since I came to you for medical attention, in a prostrated condition, after so many long years of suffering. I had but little expectation of being restored to health—yet, I felt that this was the last hope, having confidence in your skill from evidences I had seen and assurances from numbers of your patients (in the parish I came from) who had obtained from you health, the greatest blessing on earth, eliciting their warmest feelings of gratitude and sincerest friendship. I can but feel that it is my duty, as well as pleasure, now that the time is drawing near when I may be permitted to return home, to express my heartfelt thankfulness for the *wonderful change* that has been wrought by your skill and untiring kind attention, cheering and comforting me in the darkest hour of gloom and despair. It seems to all who saw me when I came to you almost incredible to think of me *then*, so long confined to my bed, helpless, with but faint hope of ever recovering, now to see me able to walk about, and participating in the social pleasures of your family, who have ever felt a deep interest in my welfare, and now re-



joice with me in the bright prospects of being permanently restored to health, regaining my strength, returning home with my husband to a fond mother, who will be more than happy to welcome me. May Heaven grant that our fondest hopes and brightest expectations be fully realized—that we may invoke a shower of blessings upon you, my good Doctor, for being the means of giving us happiness we scarcely ever hoped to enjoy on this earth and may you be long spared to continue thus doing good, proving a benefactor to the afflicted.

Your true friend,

M. J. JENKINS,  
of Madison Parish, Louisiana.

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MEMPHIS, May —, 1859.

DR. H. J. HOLMES: The foregoing letter of Mrs. J. gives but a slight idea of her former condition. For eleven years past she has been the subject of Spasmodic Menorrhagia, which has resisted all the means that could be brought to bear, by some of the most eminent physicians of Louisiana and Mississippi. It is my pleasure to say, from her present condition, the absence of all uterine hemorrhages, and the evidences before me of her active recovery, that it is due to the efficacy of your novel yet thorough treatment which is practiced on females by yourself alone.

This case has satisfied me that none need despair where the case will admit of a cure. Medicine could have accomplished nothing in arresting her disease, for it had been thoroughly tried. Good nursing has alone kept her alive until she was placed under your care. She leaves you in fine spirits, and with a certainty of having been restored to health, for which please accept our united thanks.

Very respectfully,

WILEY JENKINS, M. D.,  
of Madison Parish, Louisiana.

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MEMPHIS, April 17, 1859.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: In taking leave of you as my physician for the last six months, I cannot do so without expressing to you my deepest gratitude for the many acts of kindness extended to me by yourself and family.

I came to you a great sufferer, and would have continued in bad health for an indefinite time but for the entreaties and persuasions of a near and dear relative who had been cured by you. I shall never regret the step, and on my return home will thank her many times for the suggestion to become a patient of yours. I leave you to-morrow, and return to my friends in fine health, renovated in constitution; in a word, free from all disease, for which I shall never cease to thank you.

Very respectfully,

E. S. P., of Boston, Mass.

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MEMPHIS, April 18, 1869.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: Mrs. Olds, who has been in delicate health for many years, was treated by two eminent physicians of Alabama without receiving much benefit. By accident one of your printed pamphlets on Female Diseases fell into the hands of my lady, and seeing her disease and symptoms so accurately described, determined to visit you in Memphis. She has now been under your care six months. On my return to this city, yesterday, I was satisfied, from the evidence before me, her own statement in regard to herself, and from her greatly improved appearance, etc., that she is restored to health, for which she desires me to say she feels very grateful, and will ever remember you for your many favors and kind attentions to her.

We sincerely trust that your success in the treatment of all other cases may be equally satisfactory as it has been in this instance to us.

Very respectfully,

JOHN J. OLDS,  
of Clarke county, Ala.

ARKANSAS RIVER, April 29, 1859.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Friend*: I cannot find words to express my thanks for your letters, particularly the last, knowing, as I do, my own seeming neglect at the first, \* \* \* \* \* We have ever felt the deepest interest in your success, and feel now, as ever, the same gratitude for your attention in my own case, as well as admiration of your unrivalled skill in the treatment of hundreds of others, many of whom were my dear friends. Your excellent friend and former patient, Mrs. Kimbrough, visited us about a week ago, and now enjoys good health. She lives about eight miles distant, and came on horseback, made many inquiries about you, which I was not able to answer, having had no recent letter or other information, except from a card to the ladies of Memphis, published in the *Avalanche*.

I must not close without telling you that your patient, Mrs. Walthal, is also in fine health.

Your sincere friend,

M. E. G.

SOUTH BEND, ARK., April 29, 1859.

DR. H. J. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: \* \* \* \* \* We are much pleased to hear of your success, and hope you will yet continue improving, if it be possible, in your former practice, for, really, we hardly think from what we know of, any improvement possible, for Mrs. G. was so well cured, our boy James is the proof.

Very respectfully,

JAMES L. GOREE, M. D.

MEMPHIS, May 14, 1869.

DR. HOLMES—*Dear Sir*: As I am about to leave you and return to my home, I feel it a duty, as well as a pleasure, to place in your hands a written statement of what my condition was before I placed myself under your care, and what my present feelings and prospects are. For eighteen years I was at times a great sufferer, and the means I made use of for my relief had no lasting benefit, and particularly for four years before I submitted my case to you. I suffered at stated times *very, very* severely, and especially for the last eight months. I was entirely prostrated, reduced to a skeleton, and rendered wholly unable to leave my bed, and did not, except when carried from it. During this time, my sufferings were of the most extreme kind, entirely beyond description, and I can truly say and feel, that none but God and myself knows what I endured—nothing but the most powerful opiates could afford me relief, and that relief was of but short duration. I found that my physician did me no good. In this condition I came to you, feeling that you could benefit me if any one could. I look back upon the many years of suffering I have experienced, and what I now am, it seems almost a miracle. To you, Doctor, I entirely owe this most happy change. I feel that I owe you a debt of gratitude that is beyond my power ever to repay.

May the Almighty sustain you through all opposition, and crown your efforts to relieve suffering humanity.

Sincerely your friend,

E. E., of Raymond, Miss.

Extract from a Letter to Dr. —.

MEMPHIS, May 1, 1859.

*Dear Sir*: I send you herewith, in on one of our city papers, an article from the pen of Dr. H. J. Holmes, which I doubt not will be interesting to



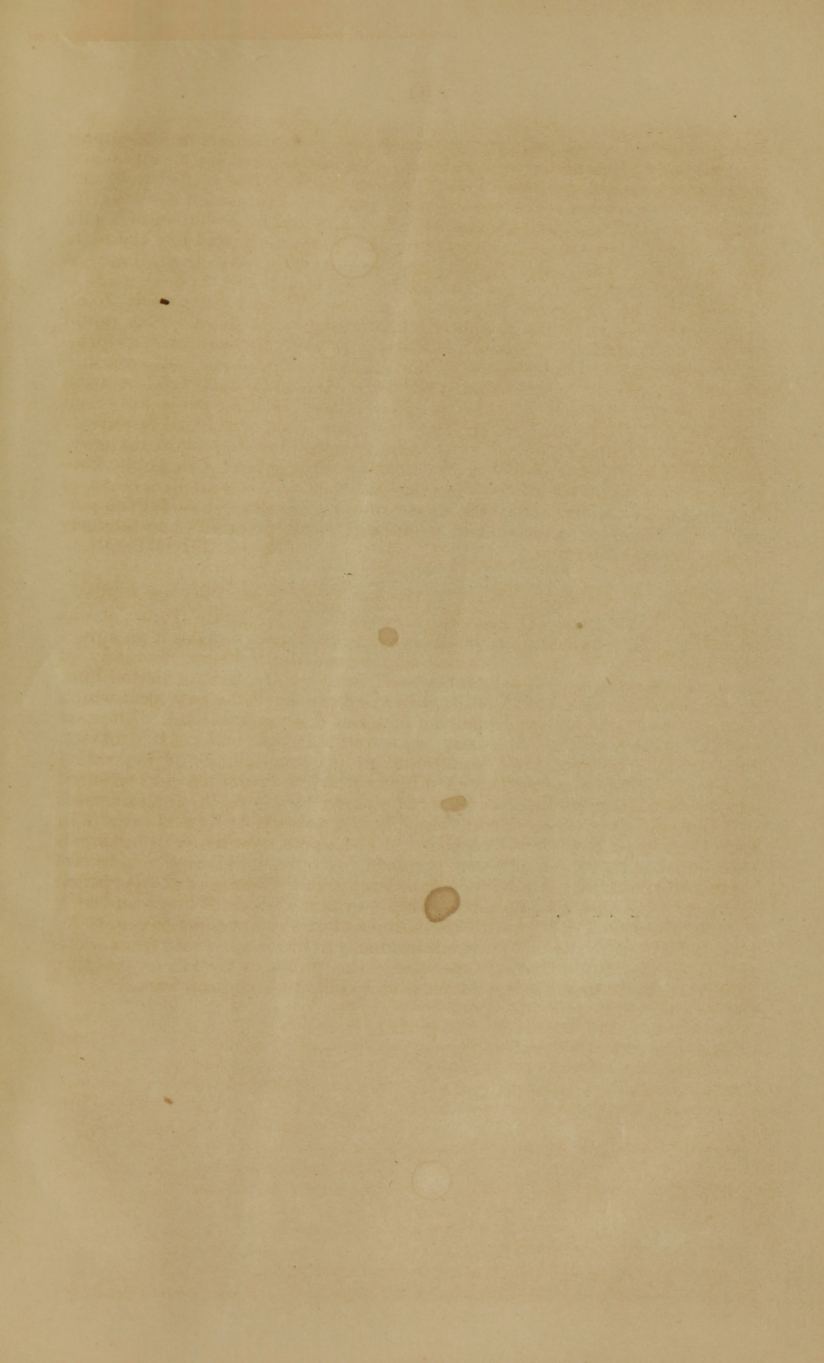
you, professionally, and I desire very much that when you next visit Memphis you will make his personal acquaintance. He has devoted his attention and practice for many years almost singly to one special class of diseases; and his mode of treatment is based, in great part, on a professed discovery in the anatomy of the female system, which I know is in direct conflict with all the notions hitherto promulgated by the profession; and his claims to the discovery, I know, are regarded and spoken of by some medical men as unfounded and preposterous. The discovery he professes to have made is certainly one of very grave importance, and would lead necessarily to an incomparably more thorough and effectual treatment of disease than would otherwise be practiced. I have had the best possible opportunities of forming an opinion as to the justness of his claims—so far as any other than a medical practitioner might be entitled to an opinion in such matters—and I am perfectly satisfied that his peculiar claims on this subject are well founded, and I firmly believe the time will come when there will be universally awarded to him the merit of a most important discovery in anatomy, for which he will be regarded, to no inconsiderable extent, as a public benefactor. The opportunities for forming an opinion arose in the course of his treatment—which, after the lapse of some months, has proven perfectly successful—of a case which addressed itself pointedly and tenderly to my personal attention.

WM. G. THOMPSON.

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Remarks of Rev. J. T. Freeman, Editor of the Mississippi Baptist.

DR. H. J. HOLMES.—During our recent visit to Memphis, Tenn., it was one of the many pleasant circumstances that occurred to make it an agreeable time to us, to dine with this distinguished physician, formerly of Spring Ridge, Miss. We remember well and vividly having visited him, five years since, with a sick family, after having tried the best skill which we could find, and almost despairing of relief from medical aid. After six months' residence at his Infirmary, we were induced to believe, that having brought to bear upon one department of his practice, all of his varied and large experience, with such additions as his vigorous and original mind would naturally furnish, he was prepared to give relief in many cases of chronic uterine derangement, which few, if any other physician could, in their general practice. We learned that he had many patients in his excellent family at this time, and was preparing to open in Memphis a private clinical hospital, where the poor could reap the advantage of his special practice. We hope that Memphis will be to him a pleasant home and wide field of usefulness. We indite these lines at the promptings of a grateful heart for his many acts of personal kindness to our family, and from a conscientious conviction that we are doing the public a benefit by pointing them to one so refined in his manners and skilled in his profession.





*Belman*

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**DR. H. J. HOLMES,**

FOR THIRTY YEARS PROPRIETOR OF

**SPRING RIDGE FEMALE INFIRMARY,  
MISSISSIPPI,**

RESPECTFULLY INFORMS THE LADIES OF ATLANTA THAT  
HE HAS LOCATED PERMANENTLY IN THIS CITY, AND  
WILL DEVOTE HIS ENTIRE ATTENTION TO

***THE DISEASES OF FEMALES.***

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